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Nightmares
& Fairy Tales

Nightmares & Fairy Tales

Nightmares and Fairy Tales, Issue Five
Story - Serena Valentino
Art - FSc

Lettering - FSc & Joshua Archer
Inside Covers - Joshua Archer
Editrix - Julia Dvorin

A Slave Labor Graphics Comic
President & Publisher – Dan Vado
Editrix-in-Chief – Jennifer de Guzman
Director of Sales – Deb Moskyok

Visit us:
www.slavelabor.com
www.serenavalentino.com

Email:
Serena – serena@serenavalentino.com
FSc – flyingsotongcan@yahoo.com

Moving Day: Gwen's Story

Nightmares & Fairy Tales, issue 5 (May 2003). Published by Slave Labor Graphics, P.O. Box 26427, San Jose, CA 95159-6427. All contents are © & ™ Serena Valentino & Foo Swee Chin (FSc). No part of this comic may be reproduced without the written permission of Serena Valentino, Foo Swee Chin & SLG except for purposes of review. Printed in Canada.

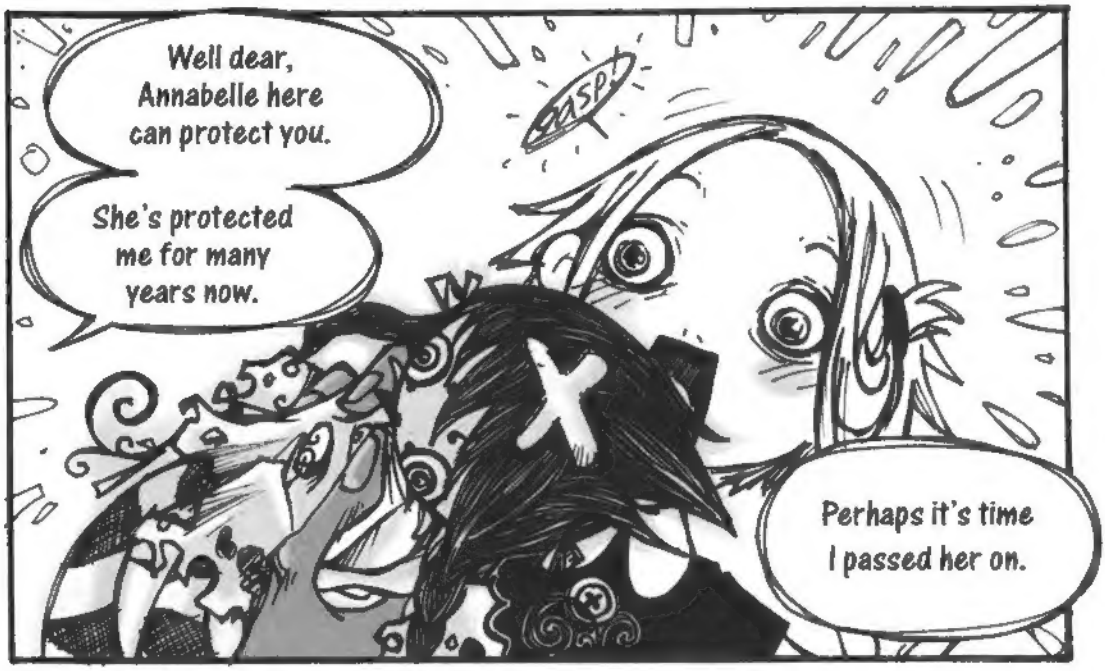
This house looks haunted, Mom!
Don't be silly, Gwen!
But it does!
BLAM!
Come on, Gwen! Get a move on! Start grabbing some boxes. We need to beat the rain.

I don't want to go in there! It looks scary!
Gwen! Get inside. You're getting wet.
I don't want to!
Stay out there then!
BAM!
Hello, my name is Beatrice.
I'm your next-door neighbor.
I'm Gwen!

Darling, why are you standing out here in the rain?

It looks scary in there.
New houses always look a little scary.

But this one looks haunted.
Humm.


Well dear, Annabelle here can protect you.
She's protected me for many years now.
GASP!
Perhaps it's time I passed her on.

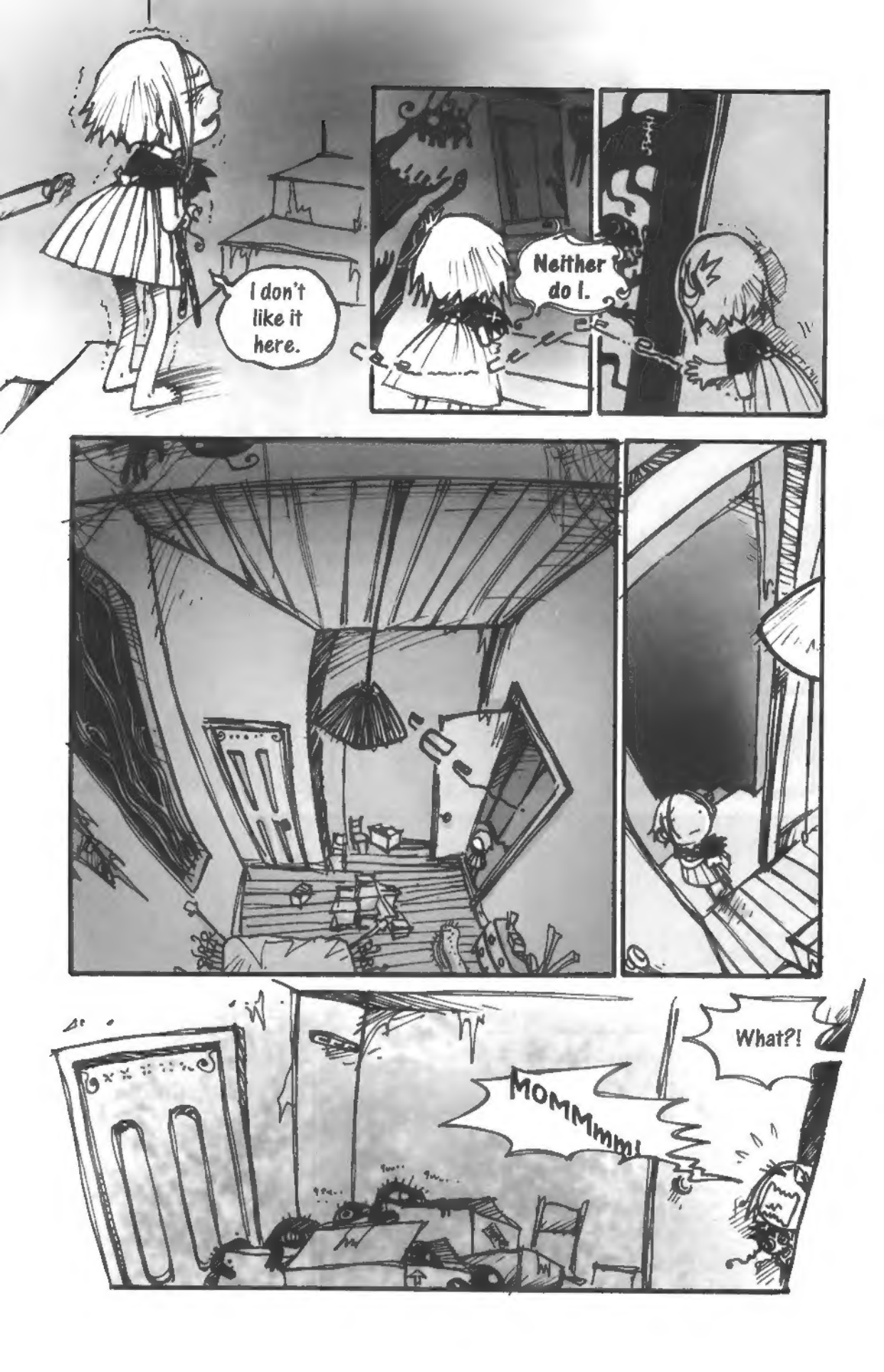
Can I really have her?

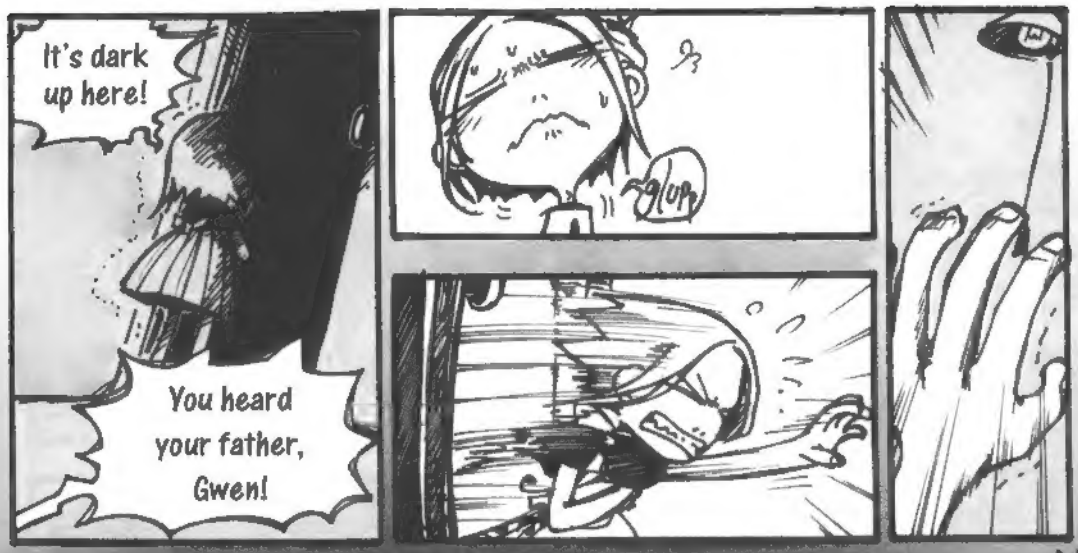
Yes, dear heart, you can.

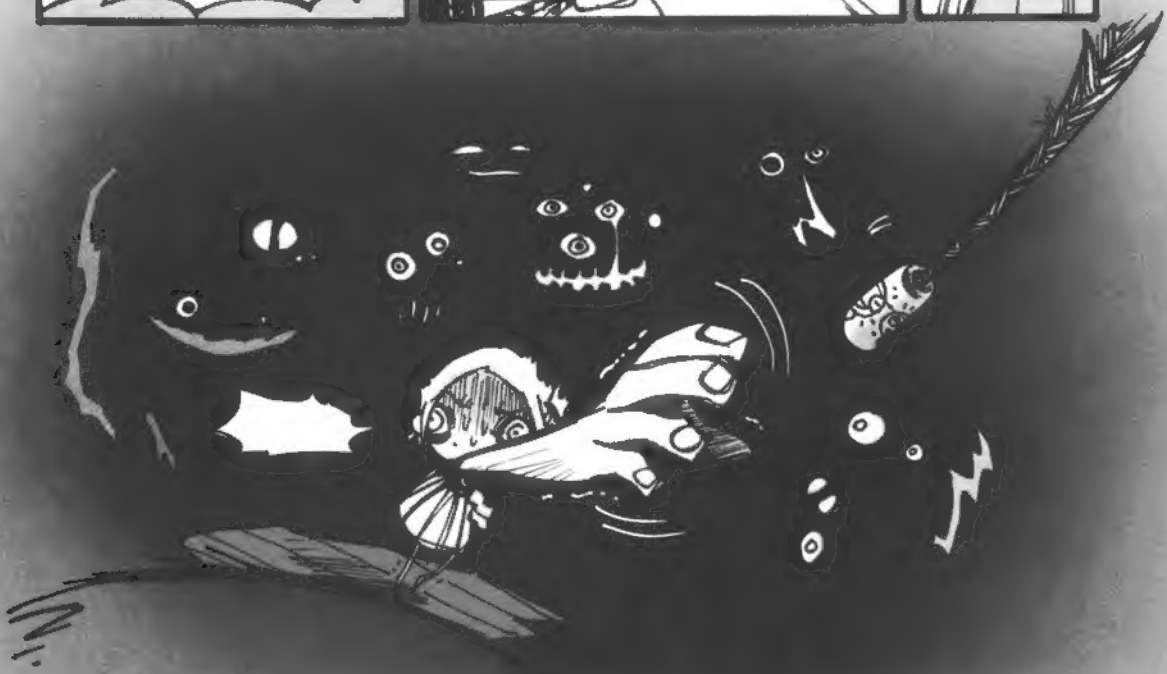
But promise me two things...

...that you will always take care of her, and from now on you'll call me Aunt Bea.
I promise.
Very well, then. I think you should go inside now, don't you think?
Chuv
Maybe.
Your parents are most likely worried.
!
Oh, hello!
I hope Gwen here wasn't bothering you.
No, not at all. She's a lovely child.
I just wanted to welcome you to the neighborhood.
Thank you. That's very kind of you.
Good night. I hope to be seeing you again soon.
Good night.

Don't ever embarrass me like that again!
Do you understand?!
What did I do?
You know exactly what you did!
Go up to your room and change this instant! You're soaking wet.
But I don't know where anything is.
Don't talk back at your mother!
You have to the count of three to get your ass upstairs, young lady.
ONE!
POM
POM
POM
POM
POM
POM
That's what I thought.


I don't like it here.
Neither do I.
MOMMmm!
What?!


It's dark up here!
You heard your father, Gwen!
glum

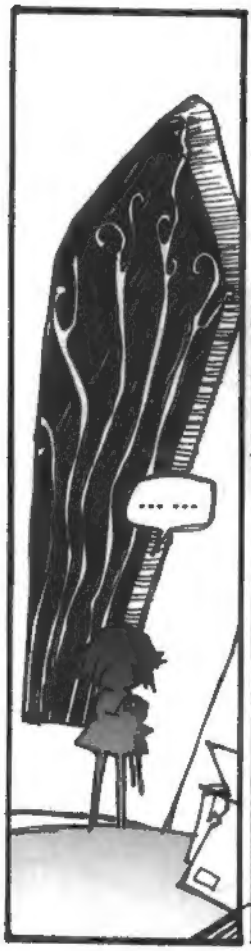


EEE
AA.....
MOM
PLEASE HELP ME!

Click
What's your problem, Gwen?
There were monsters in here! Didn't you see them?
Of course I didn't! And neither did you.

But Mom...

What is it now?
... ...
nothing.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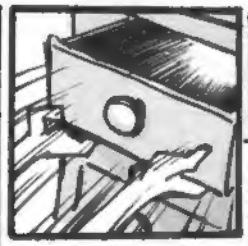
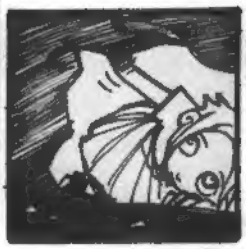
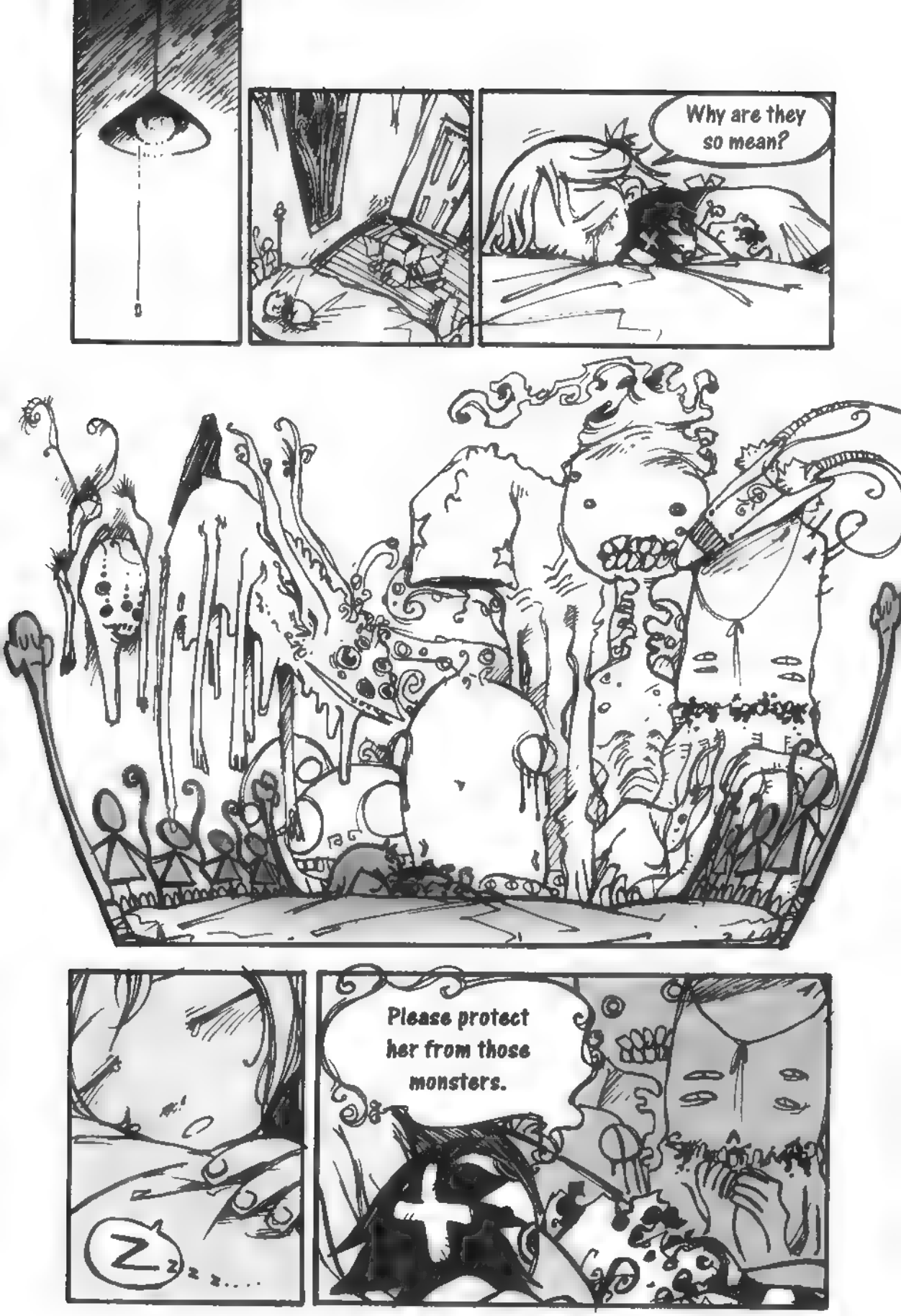


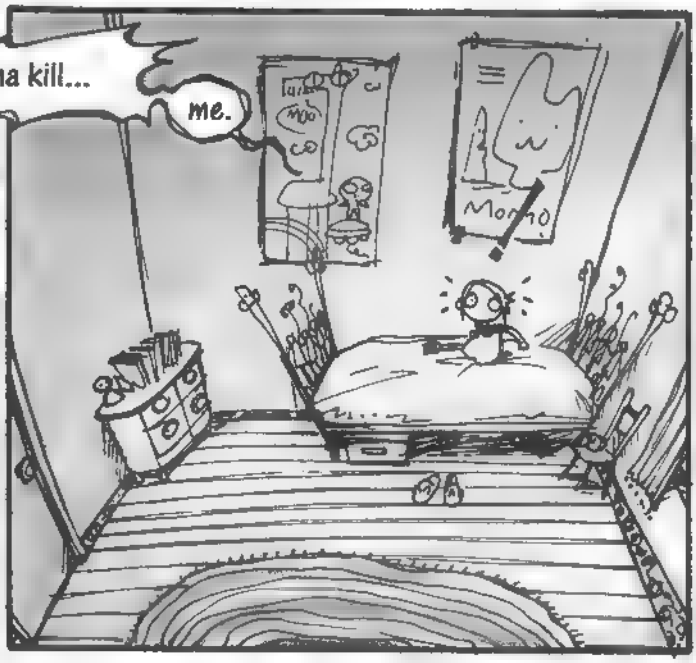


What the hell is going on here, Gwen?
There's a monster in my closet! I swear!
... ...
Look, there's nothing in there!
See?
But...
But nothing!
You better stop that crying or I'll give you something to cry about! Do you hear me?
I want you to unpack this room tonight.
But...
I'm sleepy and we haven't had dinner yet.
I don't want to see you out of this room until it's unpacked.
I mean it, Gwen.

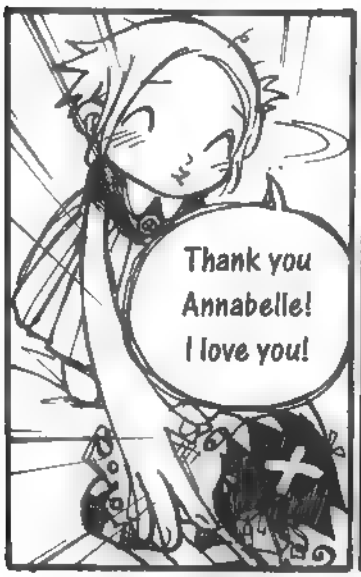

Why are they so mean?
Please protect her from those monsters.

Oh no!
I forgot to unpack
my room!

Dad's gonna kill...

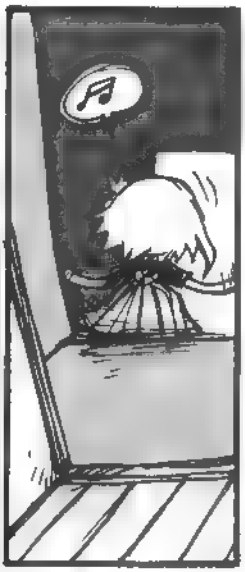

me.

Who
did
this?


Thank you
Annabelle!
I love you!

I love
you too,
sweetheart.

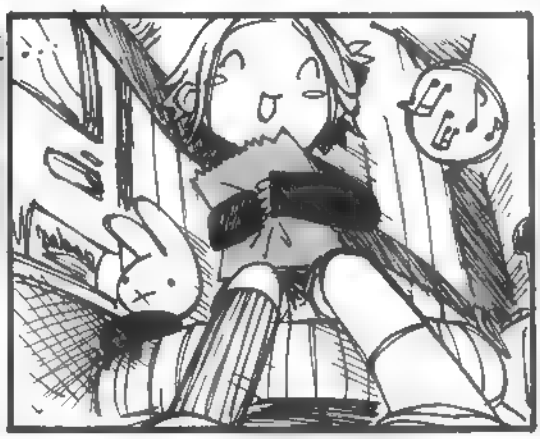
...but it wasn't
me. It was them.



NEWS
I hope for your sake that room of yours is unpacked.
It is.
No time for breakfast, Gwen. You don't want to be late for your first day of school. You'd better get to the bus stop.
But I thought you were taking me! I can't go to a new school all by myself!
And...
And what?
...what about my lunch?
You woke up too late to make it.
No time. You better get a move on.
But...
Gwen! Get that butt of yours to the bus stop now or it'll be sore!

Gwen, dear, what is it?
... ...
Come on, sweetheart.
Come in and we'll talk about it.
Munch Munch Mmmunch
Choke
Loop
My dear, you must have been hungry.
Didn't you have breakfast?
Shake

Oh my.
Do you think you can tell your aunt Bea what's the matter now?
Snff.
Snff.
... ...
I don't know where the bus stop is.
Didn't your parents tell you where it was?
Okay, darling. Well, I'm afraid you may have missed the bus.
I will take you home and let your mother know she needs to drive you to school today.
Please don't! I'll be in big trouble!
Well, I guess the only alternative is to take you myself.
But first, let me get my things.
Clink
Milk
It looks like your mother forgot to pack you a lunch.
Here you go, dear.

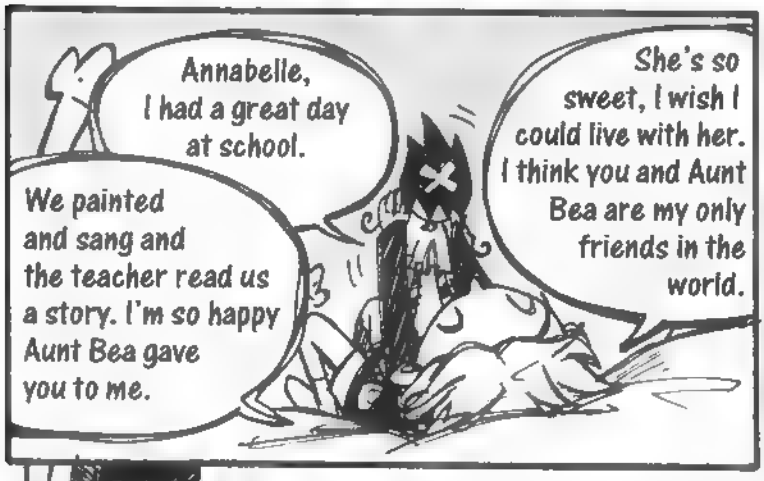


See there?
That's your bus stop.
BUS
TOOT

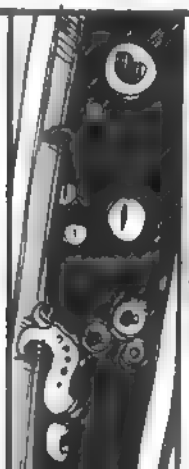
tary
OL
BRICE

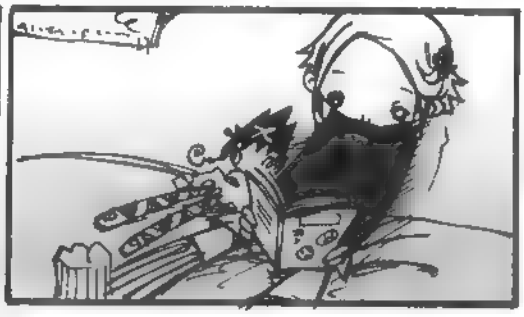
Mom!
I had such a good day at school!

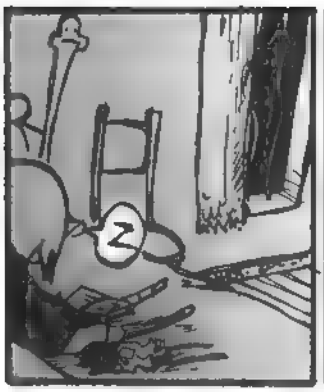
Can't you see I am on the phone?
Go upstairs until dinner is ready.


Annabelle, I had a great day at school.
We painted and sang and the teacher read us a story. I'm so happy Aunt Bea gave you to me.
She's so sweet, I wish I could live with her. I think you and Aunt Bea are my only friends in the world.

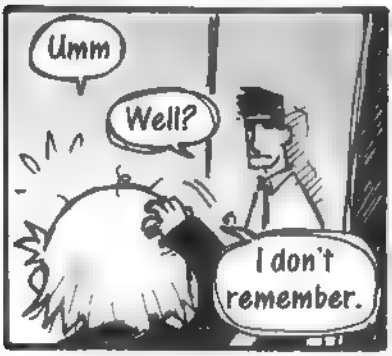
...not your only friends.

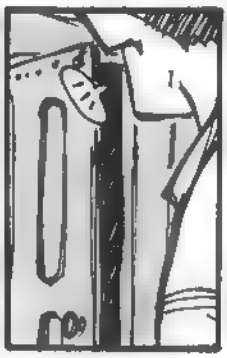





Z

Where are all the empty boxes?

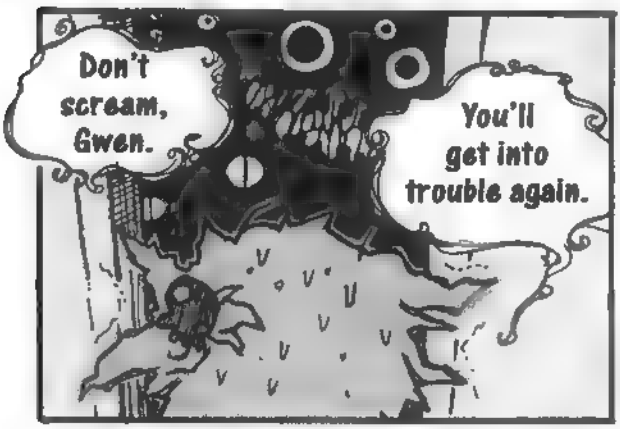

Umm
Well?
I don't remember.



.....
BOX

I want you to take all these boxes down to the curb.
Okay.
And make sure to wash your hands before you come down to dinner.
Okay.

.....


Don't scream, Gwen.
You'll get into trouble again.

You're right, Annabelle.

You can hear me?
Of course I can.
We better get down for dinner.
Don't tell your parents what you saw.
I didn't see you take those boxes down like I asked.
I thought you meant after dinner.
DO IT NOW!
.....
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK

What's the hold up, Gwen?
I'm...
What?
There's
Don't tell him!
Tell me now, or you'll get it!
... ...
There are monsters in there!
No there aren't, Gwen! This is getting ridiculous.
But there's a hole in the wall! I think that's where the monsters are coming in!
Your mom and I have the same hole in our closet!
It's probably just mice.
Now open that door and get those boxes like I asked.
... ...
I've had enough of this.
NO! Daddy, please!
Let me out!
Maybe if you stay in there for the night...
...you'll realize there's nothing in there.
SLAM.

Yo, Oh Please Baldrick
I told you not to tell him.
. . . . . .
Not again.
Flop blop
blop
Flop
Annabelle, please protect her. Please keep her safe. Kill those monsters.

Wake up, Gwen.
???
What happened?
.....
Where are the parents?
!
What's going on?
Aunt Bea!
Gwen!
Thank goodness you're all right.
The police have been searching the house for you.

She must have hidden in the closet when the intruder came in.
Luckily he didn't find her.
Thank heavens.
You are this child's aunt?
Yes...
...and now her guardian.
I think it's best that she is taken out of the house while we finish.
Agreed.
Come on, Gwen.
Let's go home. Everything will be fine.
.....?
Yes, Gwen. You will be happy with Aunt Bea.

This could not have been done by a man.
Perhaps it was some kind of animal.
I think you are right!
Look at this!
Well, whatever it was, it's gone now.

The End

Nightmares and Fairy Tales issue #6 – September 2003!

Serena Valentino & FSc

Annabelle tells Gwen a little story...

Cinderella's evil stepmother makes a pact with a demon to make her own daughters more beautiful, in hopes of their catching the eye of the prince at the royal ball. But beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and one has to wonder what a demon would find lovely.

A word –

Hello darlings,

Well I hope you enjoyed this issue. I think all little children should have monsters and an Annabelle doll to protect them from harm. Speaking of which, the Annabelle doll is currently available in finer comic book stores. She's super cute and comes in a coffin-shaped box! She can also be ordered at the SLG web store, at www.slavelabor.com. I have to tell you, when I got mine in the mail I did a happy dance all over the house!

Thanks to all of you that have been sending email letting us know how much you have been enjoying the series (and the doll). Oh, and you might have noticed that issue six is coming out a little late. Please look for it in September. A lot of you have been asking if we are going to be collecting N&F – we are. There will be a trade paperback featuring the first six issues out around the same time that issue seven comes out (December).

Well my dears, my prayers for peace go out to everyone – everywhere, all over the world.

–Serena